

On Tue, Nov 9, 2021 at 4:16 PM David Hindman <davidhindman@vaumc.org> wrote:

Dear Members of the FOIA Council,

As a White citizen resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia and a retired United Methodist pastor, I am writing to express my support for HB2196 as approved by the Records Issues subcommittee of the General Assembly.

Particularly because of high levels of mistrust of public officials, including police, our increasing awareness of the abuse of power by some police officers, the history of police abuse of minority communities and continued uneven treatment by police, I believe public access to police disciplinary records is critical to police accountability and building public trust/ Having such access to such records will help ensure that the police are doing the job our tax dollars are paying them to do, and doing it fairly and effectively.

We need transparency in our government and accountability from those with the power to take life and liberty, and who depend on public trust and our expectation of equal protection under the law. To ensure this, we the people should have access to records of both substantiated and unsubstantiated allegations against our public safety servants.

I strongly encourage you to join me in affirming the vital importance of HB2196.

Sincerely,
Rev. Dr. David M. Hindman, CITIZEN
Williamsburg, VA